

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 230859Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6615

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0378

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PK, SW, MASS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO TO SWEDEN

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 0648, (B) STOCKHOLM 0342

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ACCORDING TO A SWEDISH PAPER (DAGENS NYHETER, INDEPENDENT LIBERAL), THE PROJECTED OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO FEBRUARY 20-22 HAS BEEN THREATENED BY THE DISCLOSURES IN SWEDEN OF (1) THE ATTEMPT OF PAKISTANI AIR FORCE PERSONNEL TO SMUGGLE CANNABIS INTO SWEDEN (REF B), AND (2) THE ALLEGED REPORTED USE BY PAKISTAN AGAINST THE BALUCHISTAN GUERRILLAS OF PROPELLER-DRIVER TRAINER AIRCRAFT OBTAINED FROM SWEDEN. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC M.P. MAJ-BRITT THEORIN HAS SUBMITTED AN INTERPELLATION IN PARLIAMENT ASSERTING THAT THE USE OF THE AIRCRAFT (SAAB SUPPORTER MFI-17) AGAINST THE GUERRILLAS IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF SWEDISH ARMS EXPORT POLICY. ACCORDING TO DAGENS NYHETER, THE PLANES ARE CONFIDENTIAL
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EQUIPPED IN PAKISTAN WITH U.S. "HIGH VELOCITY WEAPONS"
AND SWEDISH BOFORS MISSILES. THE PAPER REPORTED THAT

THE PAKISTANI AIR FORCE HERCULES, ON WHICH THE CANNABIS WAS CARRIED, IS CURRENTLY BEING LOADED WITH COMPONENTS FOR ADDITIONAL SAAB AIRCRAFT TO BE TURNED OVER TO PAKISTAN. AS A RESULT OF THESE DISCLOSURES, THE ARTICLE ADDED, THE BHUTTO VISIT MIGHT BE POSTPONED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED JAN AF SILEN, DIRECTOR OF THE MFA SECOND DIVISION, WHICH INCLUDES SOUTH ASIA, TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE ACCURACY OF THE REPORT THAT THE BHUTTO VISIT MIGHT BE PUT OFF. AF SILEN INSISTED THAT AS FAR AS THE GOS IS CONCERNED, THE VISIT IS STILL ON, AND DESCRIBED THE DAGENS NYHETER STORY AS "PURE PRESS SPECULATION." HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM HAD BEEN "UPSET" BY THE UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO PAKISTAN BY THE SMUGGLING AND AIRCRAFT STORIES, BUT STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO INITIATIVE FROM THE SWEDISH SIDE TO POSTPONE OR CANCEL THE VISIT. A PRESS RELEASE IS BEING PREPARED ANNOUNCING THE VISIT, HE CONTINUED.

3. COMMENT: ASIDE FROM THE QUESTION OF THE BHUTTO VISIT, THE ALLEGATIONS OF PAKISTANI USE OF THE SAAB SUPPORTERS AGAINST GUERRILLAS, IF CONFIRMED, WOULD BE POLITICALLY EMBARRASSING TO THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS PRIDED ITSELF ON ITS RESTRICTIONS ON THE EXPORT OF ARMS, INCLUDING PROHIBITIONS AGAINST SHIPMENTS TO AREAS OF CONFLICT OR TO "STATES IN WHICH THERE ARE INTERNAL ARMED DISTURBANCES" OR WHICH "SUPPRESS HUMAN RIGHTS." STRAUSZ HUPE

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